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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Intelligence in ormation Cable PRIORITY

IN 32971

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ontains information affecting the Mational Defense of the United States within the e meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title erson is prohibited by law.

ARMY

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STATE/INR

181803Z

1.5(c)3.4(b)(1)

DIST 18 JANUARY 1968

COUNTRY

GREECE

NMCC/MC

(SECDEF

IOG

17 TO 18 JANUARY 1968

SUBJECT

MILITARY MOVEMENTS INDICATING POSSIBLE ALERT

ACQ

SOURCE

1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

DURING THE NIGHT OF 17 JANUARY 1968 AND THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF 18 JANUARY, VARIOUS MOVEMENTS OF ARMORED CARS ANT TANKS TOOK PLACE IN ATHENS (AMBELOKIPOI) AREA AND ITS SUBURBS, AND ISOLATED TANKS WERE MOVING ON THE ATHENS-ELEFSIS ROAD. ALSO AT APPROXIMATELY 0100 HOURS ON 18 JANUARY, THE THESSALONIKI RADIO STATION AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE: WERE PUT UNDER

APPROVED FOR RELEASE JUNE 1999

1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

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1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

S-E-O-R-E-T
(classifications) (dissem controls)

MILITARY GUARD (COMMANDOS).

ON 18 JANUARY, DEPUTY PRIME

MINISTER AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR STYLIANOS PATTAKOS GAVE

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

A STATEMENT TO SELECT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT

"GREECE IS STRONG, IS NOT WORRIED BECAUSE OF THE RUMORS CIRCULATING

CONCERNING THE COUNTRY, AND THAT, IF NECESSARY, GREECE IS ABLE

TO MEET IN BATTLE HER ENEMIES AND SOME FT DI WHO WANT GREECE

TO BECOME ANOTHER VIETNAM."

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

THE ABOVE ACTIVITY WAS INITIALLY INTERPRETED AS BEING A RESULT OF A CLASH BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS AND COLONEL IOANNIS LADAS, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ORDER. HOWEVER, IT WAS LATER BELIEVED TO INDICATE NERVOUSNESS ON THE PART OF THE REGIME OVER SOME OTHER, UNKNOWN, THREAT.

S-E-C-E-T

1.5(c) 3.4(b)(<u>1</u>)



PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES 1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

> 1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

A NUMBER OF REASONS HAVE BEEN CITED FOR

THE REGIME'S NERVOUSNESS, INCLUDING A POSSIBLE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT BY KING KONSTANTINOS OR FORMER CENTER UNION (ED) DEPUTY ANDREAS PAPANDREOU. HOWEVER, THE TROOP MOVEMENTS INDICATE THAT THE REGIME IS WORRIED OVER INTERNAL MATTERS RATHER THAN 1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

QINCUSNAVEUR CINCMEAFSA USAREUR USAFE

GP 1

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

S-E-C--E-T